

capable of binding to the Fc-portions of the said antibodies, directed against the membrane structure; and

1.2.1. mixing the target-cell-associating antibodies (murine or human) which is attached to the said particles or beads, or attached to the beads pre-coated with anti-mouse or anti-human antibodies recognizing the Fc-portions or the target-associating antibodies, with the cell suspension containing the target-cells, or,

1.2.2. mixing free target-cell-associating antibodies with the cell suspension containing the target cells and incubate this mixture for 5-10 min to 2 h, preferably 30 min, at a temperature between 0°C and 20°C, preferably 4°C under gentle rotation, and;

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1.3. incubating the mixture of the cell suspension and target-associating antibodies attached to paramagnetic particles or beads (1.2.1), or paramagnetic particles or beads, precoated with anti-mouse or anti-human antibodies recognizing the Fc-portion of the target-associating antibodies, to the mixture of incubated free target associating antibody and cell suspension (1.2.2.), and incubating, for 5-10 min to 2 h, preferably 30 min, at a temperature between 0°C and 25°C, preferably 4°C, under gentle rotation, and;

1.4.1. if the target cell population is contained in blood or bone marrow aspirates the hydrophobic forces associated with antibody-coated particles are reduced by pre-incubating the antibody-coated particles and the cell suspension with mild detergents in suitable concentrations, e.g. Tween 20(TM) in concentrations less than 0.1% for 30 min at 4°C, and/or

1.4.2. by incubating the cell suspensions, untreated or pretreated with formalin, alcohol or other fixatives, with other antibodies or antibody fragments binding to extracellular or intracellular molecules present in the target cells and the